

CDC Zika Update

A Summary of the Zika Outbreak

[Announcer] This program is presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Welcome to Zika Update, information you need about Zika. Today, we're going to review the current Zika outbreak. Zika virus was first discovered in 1947 and is named after the Zika forest in Uganda. In the past, outbreaks of Zika occurred in areas of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands. The current Zika outbreak was first reported in Brazil in May 2015. It now spans many countries and territories across the Americas, Pacific Islands, and Africa.

On January 22, 2016, CDC activated its Emergency Operations Center to respond to the outbreaks and increased reports of birth defects, such as microcephaly, and Guillain-Barré syndrome. Guillain-Barre syndrome is an uncommon illness of the nervous system that can cause muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis.

On February 1, 2016, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern due to clusters of areas affected by Zika. Following this announcement, CDC increased its Zika response efforts. The White House also reacted to the news and President Obama requested \$1.8 billion in emergency funds to research the virus, educate at-risk populations, and respond to cases in the United States.

To learn more about Zika, visit CDC.gov/zika.

[Announcer] For the most accurate health information, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.